



Applicant TOX Pressotechnik GmbH & Co. KG
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REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present invention. Claims 1-16 have been amended. New claims 17-20 have been added.

The specification was objected to as being a literal translation. Applicant has amended the specification to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 5-16 were objected to as being in improper multiple dependent form. Applicant has amended these claims into proper US Format. Applicant requests they be examined on the merits.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to conform with US practice.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5046228 (*Eckhold*). *Eckhold* requires blades to obtain "the strength of the connection [that] is substantially isotropic in a direction parallel to the sheet faces." See *Eckhold* at Col. 1, lines 63-65. "The blades [in *Eckhold*] can be readily deflected." See *Eckhold* at Col. 3, line 55-61. The present invention utilizes a wedge shaped workpeg that is formed in only one direction. *Eckhold* needs a wedge shaped form in two directions to form a 90° angle. Thus, *Eckhold* does not teach or suggest the inventive method and device for connecting superimposed pleates.

Applicant asserts that all of the objections have been obviated and, therefore now respectfully requests withdrawal of the objections, and allowance of the application.

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REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE TERM

Applicant respectfully requests an extension of the normal term which expired on January 24, 2004, for three months, to April 24, 2004.

Submitted herewith is a check for \$950 to cover the cost of the extension.

Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account Number 04-2219, referencing our Docket Number 12396.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 22, 2004.

Chrissy Stein

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